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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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POLITICAL1. New Conservative Chairman

After several months of public speculation, Conservative Party leader Heath announced last week the resignation of Edward du Cann as party chairman and his replacement by Anthony Barber. Du Cann had wanted to return to private life for some time and it was largely an open secret that Heath had not been entirely satisfied with his performance as party chairman. Barber, one of the most promising MP's in the "second generation" of Conservative leadership has performed effectively as coordinator of parliamentary opposition on home affairs but will have to win over opinion in the constituencies and among more traditional Tory leadership elements, many of whom regret du Cann's departure.

Even though none of the more senior Conservative leaders were willing to accept the chairmanship, Barber may in fact be the best choice from Heath's point of view. He is personally identified as a Heath supporter, and is a hard-working and extremely affable man who will probably have a favorable impact in the constituencies over time. A personal success for Heath at next month's party conference would increase his acceptance as party leader and if, as seems possible, the Heath-Barber team is seen to appeal more effectively to management minded, less class-conscious independent voters, we may hear less about the need for changes at the top of the Conservative Party. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ARMY1. More British Troops for Gibraltar

Britain is to increase the strength of the Gibraltar garrison later this month. Two companies of The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers, plus detachments of Royal Engineers and Royal Signals, are to be flown out between 25 and 28 September. The reinforcements, amounting to 400 men, will bring the strength of the garrison to about 1,000. These units will reinforce the Worcestershire Regiment, which is soon to be relieved by The Royal Ulster Rifles.

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The Ministry of Defense said the reinforcements had been considered for some time, but had become possible only recently as a result of reduction in service overstretch. In fact, overstretch has been relieved for most of this year, if not since the ending of Indonesia confrontation in August 1966, and the deployment is more likely to be another maneuver in the Gibraltar dispute with Spain than a long-term decision to raise the permanent strength of the garrison.

The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers will stay in Gibraltar for about six months. Their families, and one company, will remain behind at Watchet, Somerset. Barrack accommodation, although, "adequate," according to the Defense Ministry, is now fairly short supply in Gibraltar.

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## 2. Service Families Get System-Built Homes

As the Ministry of Defense continues its search for married quarters for returning servicemen, the Ministry of Public Building and Works yesterday announced the virtual completion of 2,250 system-built dwellings for naval and military families. This week the Ministry of Works will hand over to the Royal Navy the 1,000 homes at Gosport. The Army dwellings have been built at Aldershot, and on other country sites.

The Ministry announced its proposal in May 1964, signed the main contract in July 1965, and fixed target dates for completion in June and September this year.

The Ministry of Defense recently has let contracts for 1,080 system-built family dwellings for the RAF at Brize Norton, and for the Army at Parham Down.

Under its special scheme for Service families returning from overseas, the Ministry has so far negotiated the purchase of 2,692 houses; the target is 4,478. UNCLASSIFIED

## 3. Major Personnel Changes and Promotions

Brigadier Richard John BISHOP, 46, is now Director of Administrative Planning (Army), effective 13 September 1967.

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Colonel Ronald Chester WINFIELD, 53, has been appointed Brigadier, Project Staff, HQ, Director Royal Artillery, with acting rank of Brigadier. This appointment took effect on 3 August 1967.

Vice-Admiral I.L.T. HOGG, at present Defense Services Secretary, is to succeed Lt. General Sir George Cole as Vice Chief of the Defense Staff, in November 1967. Although not indicated in the news release, it is believed that General Cole will be retiring.

Lt. General Sir Desmond FITZPATRICK, 54, Vice Chief of the General Staff since July 1966, is to become C-in-C, British Army of the Rhine and Commander Northern Army Group in July 1968 in succession to General Sir John HACKETT. General HACKETT will be retiring to take up the post of Principal, King's College, London.

Major General R.G.V. FITZGEORGE-BALFOUR, 53, will be promoted to Lt. General when he succeeds Lt. General Sir Desmond FITZPATRICK as Vice Chief of the General Staff.

General Sir Charles HARINGTON, 57, at present Deputy Chief of the General Staff, is to succeed Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer as Chief Adviser Personnel and Logistics. No date has been announced.

Major General A. J. Deane-Drummond, 50, is to be Assistant Chief of the Defense Staff (General) in August 1968.

Major General W.D.M. Raeburn, 52, is to be Chief Army Instructor, Imperial Defense College. No date has been announced. UNCLASSIFIED

#### AIR FORCE

##### 1. Sale of Beverley Aircraft

A Ministry of Defense spokesman has stated that the Royal Air Force's present fleet of over thirty Beverley transport aircraft are to be offered for sale to Hawker Siddeley Aviation when the Lockheed Hercules C-130K transports, of which sixty-six are on order, are delivered in quantity. Some Hercules are already in service, and the last order will be completed in June 1968. When queried by the press about the above, a Hawker Siddeley representative said

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that whether his company would be interested in buying back the Beverleys depended upon two factors, both of which were at present unknown - the price and the potential market. UNCLASSIFIED

2. Visit to Moscow

On 11 September, a delegation led by Mr. John Stonehouse, Minister of State at the Ministry of Technology, and including Sir George Edwards, Managing Director of the British Aircraft Corporation, Mr. L. G. Dawson, Director of Advanced Engineering, Rolls-Royce, Ltd., and top executives from Hawker Siddeley Aviation, Marconi and Dowty-Rotol, and Sir Ronald Melville, Permanent Secretary (Aviation) in the Ministry of Technology, left for Moscow. The delegation's two-week visit is the result of approaches made by the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Smirnov. The schedule for the visit was not completed until the party reached Russia, but it was expected to include talks with the Soviet Minister for the aviation industry, Mr. Dementyev, and visits to Soviet aircraft plants. UNCLASSIFIED

3. Personnel Appointment

Air Vice-Marshal A.H.C. BOXER, Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters, Bomber Command, has been appointed Defense Services Secretary at the Ministry of Defense, effective in November 1967. UNCLASSIFIED

RESEARCH

1. Gallup poll on US-Vietnam Policy

In unpublished Gallup poll taken September 10 to 17, British public reaffirmed that there is little support for US-Vietnam policy. Question asked was "The TUC are urging our government to withdraw support from America in the Vietnam fighting. Do you think that Britain should support America or be neutral?"

Overall 20% support America, 61% neutral, 19% don't know.

In breakdown by party affiliation - Conservatives gave 25%, Labor and Liberal only 16%. Neutral percentage held at around 60% except for Liberals, of whom 72% said Britain should be neutral.

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In further breaks, concerning TUC membership, TUC members ran ahead of general public in support, 25% of TUC members supported America with 58% neutral. Least support came from unemployed, of whom only 13% support American policy.

This is first time this specific question has been asked. Figure of 20% support would appear to be a decline from previous Vietnam support questions in which some 30% of British public support American policy.

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